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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE

Radio No 2, 1950

## RADIO BROADCASTING IN THE SOVIET ARMY --A POWERFUL MEDIUM OF AGITATION AND PROPAGANDA

V. Danilov

Since the war, Soviet Army men, who have been working continuously to augment their political and military knowledge, have found radio one of the best means to this end. Soviet broadcasts give soldiers, and the whole nation, a widely varied scope of truthful information on international affairs and the Successes of our country and of the peoples' democracies. Broadcasts expose the agitation of Anglo-American warmongers for a new world war and recount the great efforts for peace being made under the leadership of the Soviet Union. Radio also recounts the heroic labors of the copple to fulfill the Stalin Five-Year Plans; it aids the growth of Communist consciousness and the material welfare of the citizens of our nation.

Typical broadcasts include lectures on politics, science, and other subjects, with speeches by leading authorities and Stakhanovites, programs of plays from the best theatres, choral works, music, etc. Finally, readers give excerpts from the principal newspapers, especially the Moscow papers, and speeches on patriotic subjects.

In every garrison and regiment there are Party and Komsomol organizations which make full use of the radio to raise the political and cultural level of soldiers and officers. In remote garrisons, where newspapers are delivered only every few days, broadcasts of news, music, lectures, reports, etc, are very important. All soldiers' clubs, barracks, etc., and officers' quarters are supplied with radios. Portable sets accompany the troops to camp or in the fields.

In organizing programs, special attention is paid to patriot c propaganda, military matters and regulations, demees of the Ministry of the Armed Forces of the USSR, and the heroic traditions of the Army.

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For example, in one typical military radio-club center the program is arranged on a schedule corresponding with the orders of the day. Transmissions from the regular central broadcast stations are supplemented with local programs. In addition to the previously mentioned propaganda and official information, broadcasts publicize leaders in studies and sports, achievements in science, literature, and art. The program includes selected material from the leading newspapers and military gazettes, the "Soviet Soldier," "Pravda," "Red Star," and the "Literary Gazette."

Later, there are lectures and talks on the following subjects: "Lenin and Stalin -- Leaders of the Communist Party of Bolsheviks;" "Ethical Aspects of the Soviet Man;" "Resolutions of the Eleventh All-Union Lenin Young Communist League;" "Origin and Growth of the Earth;" "Each Soldier Prides Himself on His Own Specialty;" "Let Us Prize the Honor and Military Fame of the Soviet Army, and Our Own Units and Ratings;" and "The Role of Russian Scientists in the Field of Geographic Sciences." Excerpts from the works of M. Gorky, B. Polevyy, V. Azhayev and others are also read. In addition, Party and Komsomol secretaries, outstanding students, and others make regular appearances before the microphone.

The N-th Regiment has weekly reviews and excerpts of new books. In a period of only three months the Club Library organized 10 radio programs on educational subjects, books of Stalin Prize Laureates, and military and political magazine articles.

During training exercises radio is used to guide the soldiers in the tasks put before them. Special mobile radio stations make appearances in the field locations of the smaller units. A special radio newspaper is put out on the progress of the exercises, after a brief message from the Commander.

At dinner time, the radio brings the soldiers their favorite army and national songs, and articles from military journals connected with their studies.

At the target range, the duty officer has a radio at his disposition to transmit orders and announce the results. Outstanding riflemen frequently give valuable advice.

A special newspaper, "Radio Programs," is published which makes it possible to plan wired transmissions from central stations and arrange for collective hearings of special programs. Central broadcasts by Soviet soldiers, and local news of demobilized soldiers now in factories or kholkozes, are very popular. In many regiments, special attention is paid to broadcasts on the aggressive attitude of the antidemocratic imperialistic camp. One regiment had broadcasts on such subjects as "Under the Rule of the Dollar," Gorky's "City of the Yellow Devil," the verses of V. Mayakovskiy on America, the newspaper article "Cosmopolitanism - the Weapon of Anglo-American Reaction," and others. Another club gave a series of broadcasts on the theme "Two Worlds -- Two Lives," contrasting the well-being of the Soviet worker with the mass unemployment and suffering of labor in capitalistic countries.

Soviet soldiers have greeted with enthusiasm the ukase of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR stating: "Citizens in the ranks of the Armed Forces of the USSR have the right to vote and to be elected to office on an equal footing with all citizens." Political organizations are preparing them for their duties by explaining the Stalin Constitution, the advantages of Soviet democracy over the false bourgeois democracy, information on dates and places for balloting, and Soviet regulations on voting.

Radio is doing its part to spread the information which will fit soldiers of the Armed Forces to take + eir proper place in Soviet life.

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